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NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP
Leed Environmental, Inc.
124 Deborah Drive
Reading, PA 19610
Telephone: (610) 670-7310
Telecopy: (610) 670-7311

May 7, 2004

First Class Mail

Mr. Brad Bradley
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



258791

RE: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
Consent Decree
Progress Report 60 (April 2004)

Dear Mr. Bradley:

As required by the Consent Decree for the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the "site"), two copies of this letter are submitted on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group ("Group") to provide the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") with a progress report for operation and maintenance activities that were performed during April 2004.

1. Actions Taken During Previous Month to Comply with the Consent Decree:

- On April 1, 2004, the Group's project coordinator issued a progress report to EPA.
- On April 2, 2004, the Group's project coordinator provided to EPA's project manager a copy of an operation and maintenance log sheet which documented the results of an operation and maintenance inspection performed at the site on March 22, 2004 by the Group's contractor, ENTACT, Inc. ("ENTACT").
- On or about April 12, 2004, the Group's project coordinator received a copy of EPA's Five-Year Review Report for the site. The Group's project coordinator issued copies of the report to the Group's Technical Committee and efforts were initiated to address the recommendations in the report.
- On April 28, 2004, the Group's project coordinator and EPA's project manager discussed institutional controls for the Taracorp pile. During the discussion, EPA's project manager agreed to provide "model language" to the Group for inclusion in the deed restriction.

- On April 28, 2004, the Group's project manager and EPA's project manager discussed the status of EPA's review of the revised Supplemental Environmental Project Work Plan that had been submitted to EPA by the Madison County Community Development Agency on March 22, 2004.
 - During April 2004, the Madison County Community Development Agency continued to prepare for the public kick-off meeting related to the implementation of the Supplemental Environmental Project.
2. **Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:**
- Not applicable for this reporting period.
3. **Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Month:**
- Not applicable for this reporting period.
4. **Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:**
- As reported in previous monthly progress reports, the Group has authorized ENTACT to perform maintenance activities at the site to address the items outlined in ENTACT's June 24, 2003 inspection report. ENTACT mobilized to the site in February 2004 and completed demolition of the small building on the former BV&G Trucking property. After Illinois Power retired a gas meter, ENTACT remobilized to the site in March 2004 and completed demolition work for the larger building on the property. Repairs to the security fence were also completed in March 2004. The Group anticipates that ENTACT will return to the site in May 2004 to repair erosion rills in the Taracorp pile cap and to perform other miscellaneous maintenance activities.
 - Upon receipt of "model language" from EPA, the Group will continue efforts to establish institutional controls for the Taracorp pile property.
 - The Group anticipates that a response will be received from EPA in regard to the revised Supplemental Environmental Project Work Plan submitted to EPA by the Madison County Community Development Agency on March 22, 2004. The Group also anticipates that the Madison County Community Development Agency will hold a kick-off event in Granite City in June 2004 for the Supplemental Environmental Project.

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5. **Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

6. **Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

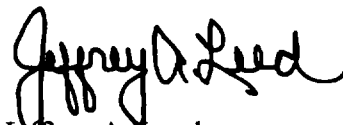
7. **Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

cc: Ms. Sandra Bron - Illinois EPA (by first class mail)
Mr. Rich Wood - ENTACT, Inc. (by first class mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group
(by first class mail)